

Message Text

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44

ACTION NEA-16

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01

PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 AID-20 IGA-02 OMB-01 TRSE-00 DRC-01

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FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7369

INFO USIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAIRO 4503

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: PRESS QUERIES RE US-EGYPTIAN RELATIONS

1. THIS MORNING'S NESA WIRELESS FILE HAS WASHINGTON STAR NEWS REPORT FROM OSWALD JOHNSTON THAT USG A) GAVE WHITE HOUSE HELICOPTER TO PRESIDENT SADAT AND B) AGREED TO TURN OVER TO GOE OUR GIZA PROPERTY. WE HAVE ALREADY HAD SOME QUESTIONS LOCALLY ABOUT THESE REPORTS AND EXPECT MORE.

2. UNLESS DEPT INSTRUCTS OTHERWISE, WE PROPOSE TO REPLY TO SUCH QUESTIONS AS FOLLOWS:

A. THE WHITE HOUSE HELICOPTER WAS GIVEN BY PRESIDENT NIXON TO PRESIDENT SADAT AS A GIFT DURING THE RECENT VISIT. SOME SPARE PARTS WERE INCLUDED. THERE ARE CURRENTLY FOUR CREW PERSONNEL IN EGYPT BUT NO TRAINING IS YET BEING GIVEN TO EGYPTIAN CREWS. WE DO NOT KNOW WHEN SUCH TRAINING WILL BE GIVEN, BUT EXPECT THIS TO TAKE PLACE IN DUE COURSE.

B) SOME SIX WEEKS AGO, GOE REQUESTED US TO CONSIDER TURNING OUR GIZA PROPERTY FOR USE AS
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A PRESIDENTIAL RESIDENCE. THE GOE INDICATED THAT IT

WOULD GIVE US IN EXCHANGE PROPERTY OR PROPERTIES OF
COMPARABLE VALUE. WE HAVE ACCEDED TO THE EGYPTIAN
REQUEST. WE ARE CURRENTLY NEGOTIATING WITH GOE
DETAILS OF THE EXCHANGE.

3. SINCE WORD OF BOTH OF THESE TRANSACTIONS IS BOUND
TO LEAK LOCALLY, WE CONSIDER ABOVE PURELY FACTUAL ANSWERS
BEST SUITED FOR LIKELY INQUIRIES.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
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Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 22 JUN 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CollinP0
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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30 JUN 2005

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